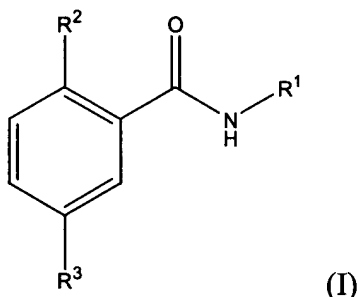


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

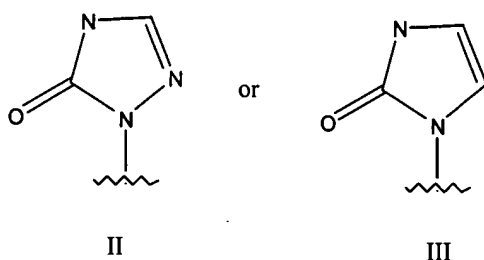
1. (currently amended) A compound of the formula



wherein R¹ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl, optionally substituted by (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, ~~or (C₆-C₁₀)aryl, (C₄-C₁₀)heterocyclyl, or (C₄-C₁₀)heteroaryl~~, wherein each of said (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, ~~or (C₆-C₁₀)aryl, (C₄-C₁₀)heterocyclyl, or (C₄-C₁₀)heteroaryl~~ are optionally substituted by one to three ~~suitable~~ moieties independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, ~~CN-~~ -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, HO(C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH(C=O)-, NH₂(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, ~~or~~ and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, wherein said (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more moieties selected from halogen, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-;

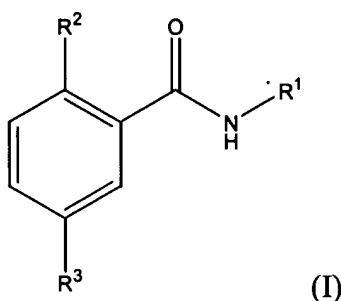
R² is hydrogen, halogen, -CN, ~~and~~ or (C₁-C₆)alkyl, wherein said (C₁-C₆)alkyl is optionally substituted by one to three ~~suitable~~ moieties, independently selected from the group consisting of halo, hydroxy, amino, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, -CF₃, CF₃O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(S=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(SO₂)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, formyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, and (C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl; and

R³ is a ~~suitably~~ substituted nitrogen linked (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclyl of the formula:



or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts or solvates or prodrugs thereof.

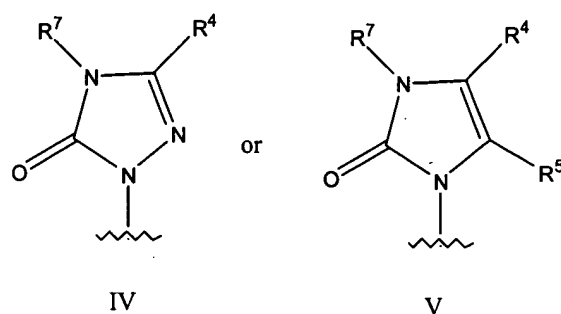
2. (currently amended) A compound of the formula



wherein R¹ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl, optionally substituted by (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, or (C₆-C₁₀)aryl, (C₄-C₁₀)heterocyclyl, or (C₄-C₁₀)heteroaryl, wherein each of said (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, or (C₆-C₁₀)aryl, (C₄-C₁₀)heterocyclyl, or (C₄-C₁₀)heteroaryl are optionally substituted by one to three suitable moieties independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, ~~CN~~ CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, HO(C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH(C=O)-, NH₂(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, or and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, wherein said (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more moieties selected from halogen, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-;

R² is hydrogen, halogen, -CN, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl, wherein said (C₁-C₆)alkyl is optionally substituted by one to three suitable moieties, independently selected from the group consisting of halo, hydroxy, amino, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, -CF₃, CF₃O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(S=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(SO₂)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, formyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, and (C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl;

R³ is a nitrogen linked (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclyl of the formula:



wherein R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group of ~~suitable~~ substituents, ~~such as~~ consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, -CN, HO-
(C₁-C₆)alkyl, and (C₁-C₆)alkyl, wherein said (C₁-C₆)alkyl is optionally substituted with one to three fluoro, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy optionally substituted with one to three fluoro, HO₂C-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, R⁶R⁸N(O₂S)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(O₂S)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O₂S-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl-N]-, R⁶R⁸N(C=O)-, R⁶R⁸N(CH₂)_m-, (C₆-C₁₀)aryl, (C₃-C₈)cycloalkyl, ~~(C₄-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₄-C₁₀)heterocyclyl, (C₆-C₁₀)aryl-O-, or (C₃-C₈)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₄-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O- and (C₄-C₁₀)heterocyclyl-O-~~; and

R^7 is independently selected from the group of ~~suitable~~ substituents ~~such as~~ consisting of hydrogen and (C₁-C₆)alkyl optionally substituted with one to three halogens, hydroxy, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy-, (C₂-C₆)alkenoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, NH₂-, ((C₁-C₆)alkyl)_n-N-, ((C₂-C₆)alkenyl)_n-N-, ((C₂-C₆)alkynyl)_n-N-, NH₂(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)N-, ((C₁-C₆)alkyl)_n-N-(C=O)-, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl-(C=O)N-, ((C₂-C₆)alkenyl)_n-N-(C=O)-, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl-(C=O)N-, ((C₂-C₆)alkynyl)_n-N-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl-(C=O)-, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, ~~((C₄-C₁₀)heterocyclyl (C=O)-, (C₆-C₁₀)aryl-(C=O), (C₄-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O), (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)O-, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl-(C=O)O-, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl-(C=O)O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O(C=O)-, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl-O-(C=O)-, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl-O-(C=O)-, and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, (C₆-C₁₀)aryl, (C₄-C₁₀)heterocyclyl, and (C₄-C₁₀)heteroaryl;~~

wherein R^4 , R^5 and R^7 may each be optionally substituted on any aliphatic or aromatic carbon atom by one to three ~~suitable~~ moieties, independently selected from the group consisting of halo, hydroxy, amino, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-

C₆)alkoxy, -CF₃, CF₃O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(S=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(SO₂)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, formyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, and (C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl;

R⁶ and R⁸ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, HO-(C₂-C₆)alkyl and (C₃-C₈)cycloalkyl, ~~or R⁶ and R⁸ may optionally be taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a 3 to 8 membered heterocycle;~~

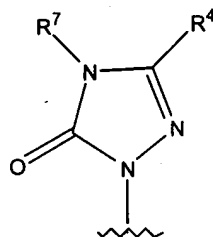
n is an integer from zero to two; and

m is an integer from one to two;

or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts or solvates or prodrugs thereof.

3. (original) A compound of any of the preceding claims wherein R² is chloro, methyl or ethyl.

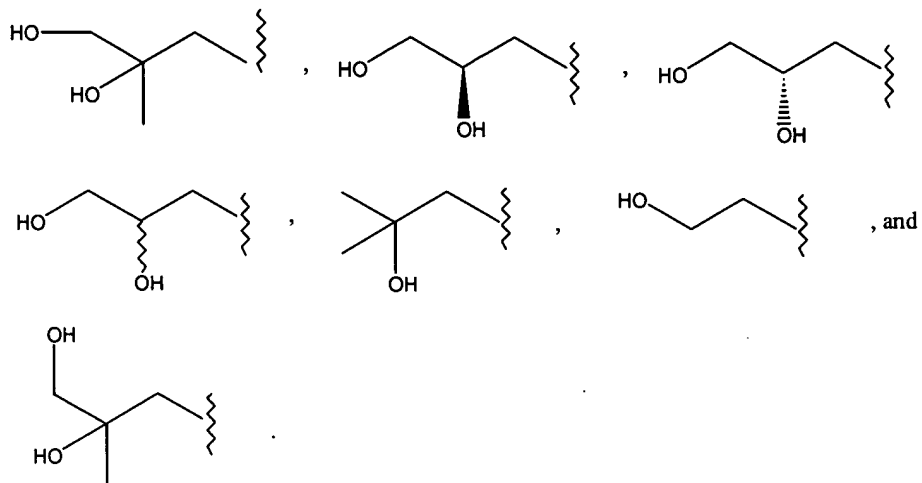
4. (original) A compound of any of the preceding claims wherein R³ is a nitrogen linked (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclyl of formula (IV):



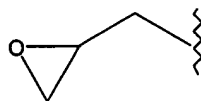
(IV)

R⁴ is hydrogen or methyl,

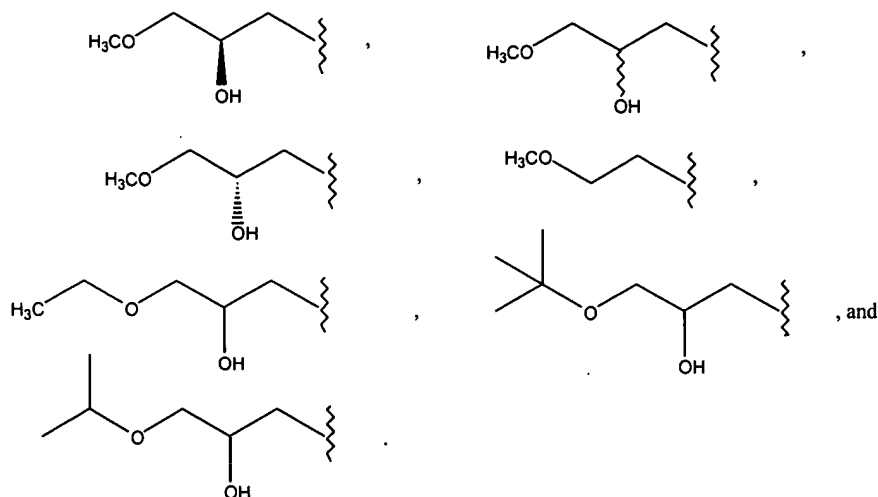
and R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of:



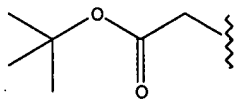
5. (currently amended) A compound of any of ~~the preceding~~ claims 1, 2, or 3 wherein R^3 is a nitrogen linked (C_1 - C_{10})heterocyclyl of formula (IV), R^4 is hydrogen or methyl, and R^7 is



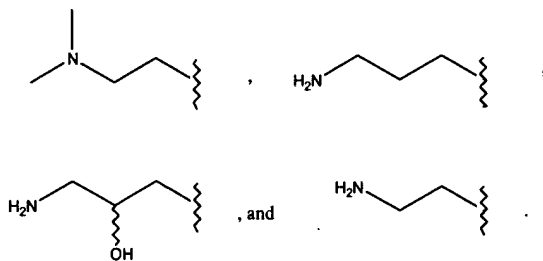
6. (currently amended) A compound of any of ~~the preceding~~ claims 1, 2, or 3 wherein R^3 is a nitrogen linked (C_1 - C_{10})heterocyclyl of formula (IV), R^4 is hydrogen or methyl, and R^7 is selected from the group consisting of:



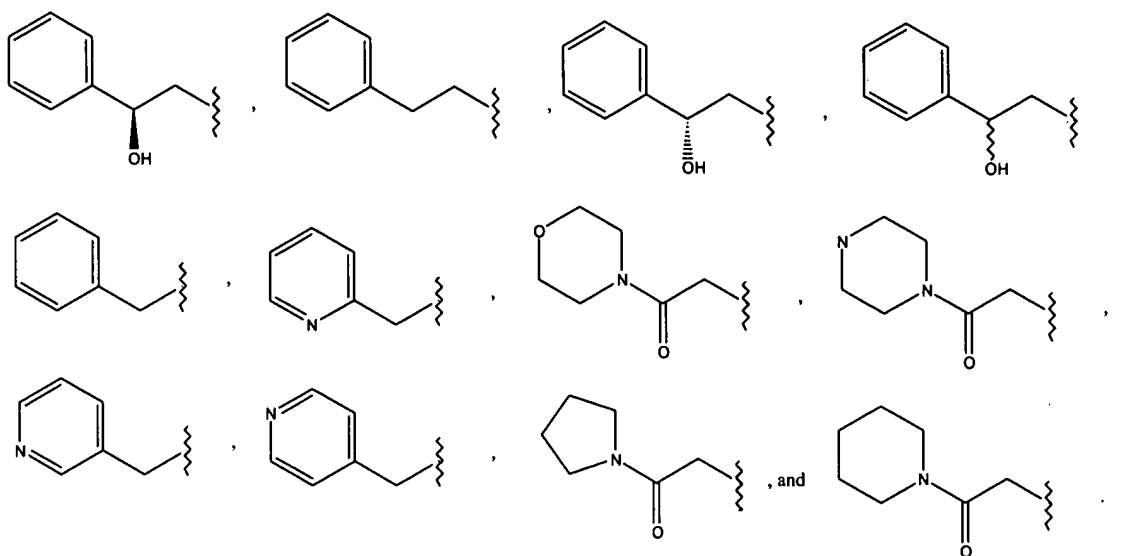
7. (currently amended) A compound of any of ~~the preceding~~ claims 1, 2, or 3 wherein R^3 is a nitrogen linked (C_1 - C_{10})heterocyclyl of formula (IV), R^4 is hydrogen or methyl, and R^7 is



8. (currently amended) A compound of any of ~~the preceding~~ claims 1, 2, or 3 wherein R^3 is a nitrogen linked (C_1 - C_{10})heterocyclyl of formula (IV), R^4 is hydrogen or methyl, and R^7 is selected from:



9. (currently amended) A compound of any of ~~the preceding~~ claims 1, 2, or 3 wherein R^3 is a nitrogen linked (C_1 - C_{10})heterocyclyl of formula (IV), R^4 is hydrogen or methyl, and R^7 is selected from:



10. (currently amended) A compound selected from the group consisting of:

2-Chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-5-[4-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl]-benzamide;

2-Chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-5-(5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl)-benzamide;

2-Chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-5-(3-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl)-benzamide;

2-Chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl]-benzamide;

2-Chloro-5-(4-cyanomethyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl)-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-benzamide;

2-Chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-5-[4-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-3-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl]-benzamide;

2-Chloro-5-(4-cyanomethyl-3-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl)-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptyl methyl)-benzamide;

2-Chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-3,3-dimethyl-cyclohexylmethyl)-5-(3-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl)-benzamide;

5-(4-Carbamoylmethyl-3-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl)-2-chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-benzamide;

2-Chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-3-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl]-benzamide;

5-[4-(2-Amino-ethyl)-3-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl]-2-chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-benzamide;

2-Chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-3-methoxy-propyl)-3-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl]-benzamide;

2-Chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-3-methoxy-propyl)-3-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl]-benzamide; and

2-Chloro-N-(1-hydroxy-cycloheptylmethyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propyl)-3-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazol-1-yl]-benzamide[[]] , or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts or solvates or prodrugs thereof.

11. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for treating a IL-1 mediated disease in a mammal in need thereof, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or 2 or a salt or prodrug thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

12. (withdrawn) A method of treating a IL-1 mediated disease in a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or a salt or prodrug thereof.